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among Semitic peoples. Otherwise Mr. Wiener's defense of the Biblical code, and the comparison with the code of Hammurabi, and the Roman law, make one regret the brevity of the chapter.

I. G.

A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF WILLS, including also Gifts Causa Mortis, and a Summary of the Law of Descent, Distribution, and Administration. By John R. Rood. Chicago: Callaghan & Co. 1904. pp. lxvi, 635. 8vo.

The body of this work is made up of four principal titles, "Gifts Causa Mortis," "Wills," "Descent and Distribution," and "Administration of Estates." The subject of wills, which occupies more than two-thirds of the text, is treated at length, and includes a somewhat detailed discussion of construction. The other topics are more briefly treated, presenting broad outlines of the subjects discussed, without entering into a minute study of the complications which arise in practice. The historical matter incorporated, the space devoted to introductions, and the constant repetition of the analytical scheme of the book, seem to indicate, in so condensed a treatise, that the writer is addressing the student rather than the practitioner. Though at times verbose, he has covered the details more fully than the available space would lead one to expect. The citations are mainly confined to leading cases, and this results in an unusually large proportion of English authorities. On important points, the summaries of statutes and decisions in the various states seem careful and complete. The practice of citing on each point the annotations which are to be found in standard collections of cases will prove useful. Although the author, in discussing some well-known points of conflict, seems a trifle overconfident as to the weight of authority, the tone of the book is conservative. It can claim no especial distinction for originality, but its scope is broad enough, and its treatment sufficiently reliable, to make it a very useful practical handbook.

AN OUTLINE OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK. By George Arthur Ingalls. Albany, N. Y.: Matthew Bender, 1904. pp. 79. 16mo.

The municipal government of Greater New York has such manifold and intricate features that Mr. Ingalls has, perhaps, rendered some service in presenting, through a hasty but rather compendious survey, its important parts. A concise exposition of the political position of the city in the state government is followed by a detailed summary of the powers, duties, etc., of the various branches and departments of the city administration. This little book will relieve the ordinary person, in search of information, from turning to the repellant bulky volume containing the New York Charter, but its sketchy outline is hardly intended for the practitioner. A dealing with the numerous legal questions which constantly arise with reference to the charter was foreign to the modest purpose of this volume.

VENEZUELAN ARBITRATIONS of 1903, including protocols, personnel and rules of commissions, opinions, and summary of awards, with appendix containing Venezuelan Yellow Book of 1903, Bowen Pamphlet entitled "Venezuelan Protocols," and "Preferential Question," Hague decision, with history of recent Venezuelan Revolutions. Prepared by Jackson H. Ralston and W. T. Sherman Doyle. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1904. pp. xxviii, 1105. 8vo.

THE DICTIONARY OF LEGAL QUOTATIONS; or, Selected Dicta of English Chancellors and Judges from Earliest Periods to the Present Time. Extracted mainly from reported decisions, and embracing many epigrams and quaint sayings. With explanatory notes and references. By James William Norton-Kyshe. London: Sweet and Maxwell, Limited. 1904. pp. xxi, 344. 8vo.